

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IS XF US UN

SUBJECT: INITIAL ISRAELI REACTION TO SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE

1. SUMMARY: MFA JANUARY 27 ISSUED STATEMENT WELCOMING
US VETO OF SIX-POWER DRAFT RESOLUTION AND NOTING FAVORABLY
ABSTENTIONS BY UK, ITALY, AND SWEDEN. MFA STATEMENT
OBSERVES THAT OUTCOME OF DEBATE CONFIRMED WISDOM OF ISRAELI
DECISION TO BOYCOTT DEBATE AND CALLS FOR RECONVENING
OF GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH ORIGINAL PARTICIPANTS. UNSC
VOTE CAME TOO LATE TO BE REPORTED IN MORNING PRESS.
AFTERNOON PAPERS ECHO MFA APPROVAL OF VETO AND ABSTENTIONS
BUT ALSO NOTE GAINS MADE BY PLO, INCLUDING WIDE-
SPREAD INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ITS ROLE AS REP-
RESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS AND ENDORSEMENT OF ITS
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DEMANDS FOR PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE.

END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JANUARY 27 MFA STATEMENT ON
UNSC MIDDLE EAST DEBATE. (AS PROVIDED TELEPHONICALLY--
PRINTED TEXT NOT AVAILABLE.)

3. BEGIN TEXT: THE DEBATE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON
THE PROBLEM OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND ON THE PALESTINIAN
QUESTION HAS NOW ENDED WITHOUT THE ADOPTION OF ANY
RESOLUTION SINCE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY A
GROUP OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT THE INITIATIVE OF
THE ARABS WAS REJECTED AS A RESULT OF A VETO AGAINST IT
BY THE U.S.

4. THE PURPOSE OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS TO NULLIFY
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AND THUS FURTHER
THE SYRIAN-PLO CONSPIRACY TO FRUSTRATE THE PROCESS
OF NEGOTIATIONS BY ABANDONING THE PRINCIPLE OF NEGOTIA-
TION AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN EQUAL PARTIES.

5. ISRAEL WELCOMES THE VOTE OF THE U.S. AND REGARDS
IT AS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF
STABILITY IN OUR REGION AND TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF
THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSION AND PEACE EFFORTS.

6. ISRAEL HAS NOTED THAT BRITAIN, ITALY AND SWEDEN
ALSO REFUSED TO SUPPORT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH, IF
ADOPTED, WOULD HAVE IRREPARABLY UNDERMINED THE ONLY
AGREED BASIS FOR ANY SETTLEMENT AS IT FINDS EXPRESSION
IN RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

7. ON THE OTHER HAND IT IS TO BE REGARDED WITH REGRET
THAT THIS DESTRUCTIVE ARAB MOVE GAINED THE SUPPORT
OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES SUCH AS FRANCE, JAPAN, PANAMA AND
ROMANIA.

8. THIS DEVELOPMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL PROVED THE
VIRTUE OF THE POSITION TAKEN BY ISRAEL FROM THE BE-
GINNING--NAMELY THE NEGATION IN ADVANCE OF THE DEBATE
IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS A STERILE AS WELL AS DANG-
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EROUS EXERICSE AND NON-PARTICIPATION IN IT.

9. ISRAEL ADHERES TO HER POSITION THAT THE SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION CANNOT REPLACE FREE NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN THE PARTIES WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, AND REITERATES
HER CALL TO CONVENE THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE WITH
THE ORIGINAL COMPOSITION OF PARTICIPATION AND ACCORDING

TO THE LETTER OF INVITATION OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL IN ORDER TO ADVANCE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES FOR THE SOLUTION OF ALL THE PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT IN OUR REGION. END TEXT

10. THOUGH VOTE ON PALESTINIAN RESOLUTION CAME TO LATE TO BE REPORTED IN MORNING PRESS, JANUARY 27 AFTERNOON PAPERS REACTED CAUTIOUSLY BY WELCOMING US VETO BUT NOTING GAINS MADE BY PLO IN OBTAINING INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ITS ROLE AS SPOKESMAN FOR PALESTINIANS. MAARIV EDITORIALIZES: "...THE AMERICAN VETO HAS NOT PUT AN END TO ARAB ATTEMPTS TO VOID RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. PRECEDENTS HAVE BEEN SET... THE PLO HAS BEEN FORMALLY RECOGNIZED AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS. ITS RIGHT TO TAKE PART IN SECURITY COUNCIL SESSIONS WITH THE STATUS OF A SOVEREIGN STATE HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED. FRANCE HAS TAKEN A MAJOR STEP TOWARD BACKING ARAB DEMANDS."

11. YEDIOT EDITORIALIST OBSERVES THAT "WHEN ALL THE ARABS COME TOGETHER, THE MOST EXTREME AMONG THEM BECOMES LEADER...THE WEST DOES NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO STAND UP AGAINST THEM AND THE US HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO APPEAR AS THEIR SOLE OPPONENT...OUR BOYCOTTING THE SESSION...MAY HAVE ADDED TO OUR STANDING IN THE WORLD AND HELPED THE US ACT AS IT DID."

12. YEDIOT DIPLOMATIC COMMENTATOR GUINEY, WEIGHING THE SUPPORT ISRAEL RECEIVED FROM US AS WELL AS BRITAIN, ITALY AND SWEDEN AGAINST PLO GAINS, EVALUATES THE RESULTS AS "A SHORT-RANGE TACTICAL VICTORY FOR ISRAEL AND A LONG-RANGE GAIN FOR SYRIAN STRATEGY." AT THE SAME TIME HE NOTES THAT TO GAIN ELEVEN VOTES, THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARABS WERE FORCED TO TONE DOWN THEIR ORIGINAL DRAFT AND IMPLY ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST WITHIN SECURE, RECOGNIZED BORDERS. EVIDENTLY, THERE IS NO SUPPORT FOR THE PLO AIM OF A SECULAR STATE INSTEAD OF ISRAEL. DUNNIGAN

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